



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H7N9)

Human infections with avian influenza A (H7N9) continue to be reported in China. Most reported cases have severe respiratory illness and, in some cases, have died. The World Health Organization (WHO) is posting updates on the latest number of cases and the ongoing epidemiologic investigation [here](#). Currently, no epidemiological links have been found among any of the lab-confirmed cases; however, two possible [family clusters](#) are being investigated. More than 1,300 close contacts are being monitored. The virus has been detected in various poultry samples and one wild pigeon. Investigations into the possible sources of infection and reservoirs of the virus are ongoing. Until the source of infection has been identified, it is expected that there will be further cases of human infection with the virus in China. There is no recommendation against travel to China at this time.

Related Articles:

- CIDRAP: First [asymptomatic](#) case has been reported
- The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM) published an article describing the [first three human cases](#). Two had history of recent poultry exposure; all three died.
- NEJM also published [commentary](#) by CDC authors identifying unique characteristics of H7N9 and highlighting preparedness efforts.
- CIDRAP: [Genetic analysis](#) raises concern over pandemic potential.
- CHINA POST: [H7N9 vaccine may enter market as early as July](#)

The following resources were developed this week:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is posting updated information on the situation [here](#).
 - CDC is providing weekly updates. Key points from April 12 are attached.
 - Interim guidance was released on the use of antiviral agents for treatment, found [here](#).
 - [Selected Publications and Resources Related to H7N9](#)
- WHO's [frequently-asked-questions resource](#) on avian influenza A (H7N9).
- The Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention also posted a [Q&A](#) on the developing situation.
- The European Centers for Disease Prevention and Control is posting updates [here](#).

H5N1 INFLUENZA

News articles

- CIDRAP: [EGYPT REPORTS SECOND H5N1 DEATH THIS YEAR](#)
- [H5N1 VIRUS HITS BIRDS-NEST FARM IN VIETNAM](#)
- CIDRAP: [NINE H5N1 OUTBREAKS IN NEPAL LEAD TO 10,000 DEAD POULTRY](#)

SEASONAL INFLUENZA UPDATES

Seasonal flu activity is low and declining nationally, according to last week's [FluView](#), which reports that influenza-like-illness (ILI) in the United States is below the national baseline for the third consecutive week. Five pediatric deaths were reported during the week ending April 6. In Michigan, ILI activity is slightly above the regional baseline, increased in two regions, decreased in one region, and remained the same in one region.

INFLUENZA-RELATED NEWS ARTICLES

- [Keys to a successful 2013 flu season: Planning starts now](#)
- [A better way of making influenza vaccine](#)
- [Immunology 2.0: Bioinformatics Study Provides Clues about Vaccine Immune Responses](#)
- [Asia-Pacific Influenza News Letter](#)

INFLUENZA-RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- An [Australian study](#) to determine influenza vaccination coverage among pregnant women found that women who received a vaccine recommendation from a healthcare provider were 20 times more likely to get vaccinated.
- The [Journal of Infectious Diseases](#) published a randomized trial that showed quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIV) in kids aged 3-17 years resulted in good protection against the added B strain.
- An Australian study showed [hospital-acquired influenza](#) is uncommon but may be associated with severe disease.

NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK (NIIW)

April 20-27 is NIIW - an [annual observance](#) to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases.

FLU WEBSITES

www.michigan.gov/flu
www.cdc.gov/flu
www.flu.gov
<http://vaccine.healthmap.org/>

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